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62-4551

# THE WAR OF THE REBELL

## A COMPILATION OF THE OFFICIAL RECORDS OF THE UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARM

PREPARED BY  
The Late Lieut. Col. ROBERT N. SCOTT, Third U. S. Ar

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF  
The Hon. REDFIELD PROCTOR, Secretary of War

BY  
M. J. GEORGE, B. DAVIS, U. S. A.  
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M. JOSEPH W. KIRKLEY,

*Boyd & Co. Publishers, etc.*

SERIES I VOLUME XXXVI IN THREE PARTS  
PART II Reports, Correspondence, &c.

CHAPTER XLVIII.  
OPERATIONS IN SOUTHEASTERN VIRGINIA  
AND NORTH CAROLINA.

May 1-June 12, 1864.

PART II.

REPORTS—except for Campaign from the Rapidan River, May 4-June 12.  
CORRESPONDENCE, etc., May 1-19.

**MAY 4 6, 1864.** Operations about New Berne, and in Albemarle and Pamlico Rivers, N. C., including skirmishes on the Trent Road (4th); and on the Trent River (5th); Engagement with the Confederates on the Pamlico (5th); and Surrender of Union Outpost at Croatan (5th).

REPORTS.

- No. 1. Brig. Gen. Innis N. Palmer, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Carolina.  
No. 2. Col. Henry T. Sisson, Fifth Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, at Croatan.

No. 1.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Innis N. Palmer, U. S. Army,  
District of North Carolina.*

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,  
New Berne, N. C., J.

MAJOR: Since I last wrote you in reference to affairs in North Carolina, we have had stirring, but rather satisfactory operations.

On the evening of the 4th instant the enemy appeared on the Trent road toward Kinston, some 8 miles from here, and our picket. Our force there was a small regiment of two companies of infantry. These held their ground when the enemy retired. The next morning a considerable force appeared on the railroad on the south side of the Trent, our batteries, both army and navy, were engaged with

late in the afternoon, when the enemy ceased firing. In the morning a flag of truce came in with one Major Reade verbally that he had come by direction of General Heintzelman to the surrender of the place, as they had possession of the railroad, &c. I directed one of my aides-de-camp to say to him that his delicate jest was duly received, but that he must leave in one-half hour, or we would shoot him. He left immediately, and I have heard nothing since.

The forces on the railroad between this place and Fort Mifflin, told by two deserters, consisted of three brigades of 11th Virginia, all commanded by Walker, with some fifty or sixty artillery. I believe very little of what I hear, and all information may be correct I doubt it—that is, I doubt largely a force. Our artillery practice was excellent, and I say that quite a number, something more than 40, every day I am having the railroad repaired, the telegraph &c., and before another day I hope to have our communications open. I sent a steamer to Beaufort in the 5th. She has just returned, and I learn from Colonel Manning the Sub-District of Beaufort, that he is all that he will be able to hold out I firmly believe against that may attack him.

The inclosed copy of a letter from Captain Smith, officer, will explain the operations against the "Ram" in the Sound. Lieutenant King, of the Engineers, witnessed the engagement with the ram, and I think it a fair affair. The *Sassacus* ran into the ram with all the force she could, but she could neither sink her nor roll her over. A shot went completely through the *Sassacus*, penetrating the boiler, and scalding badly some 18 others.

The torpedoes are now in the mouth of the Roanoke notwithstanding the formidable character of the ram. The rebel force that came here expected to find the *Roanoke* ram here. I am confident of being successful here. The greatest difficulty I have is the trouble arising from the timid persons, women and contrabands, who are badly scared. We have laughed the most of them out of their fears.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N.  
Brig

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,  
A. A. G., Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fortress

[Inclosure, \*]

U. S. STEAMER MATTA  
Off Roanoke River

Brig. Gen. I. N. PALMER,  
Commanding Land Forces in North Caro.

GENERAL: I have to inform you that I engaged the *Matilda* yesterday from 4.40 to 7.30 p. m. with all my force, but our efforts to capture her were not attended with success.

\*See also report of the Secretary of the Navy for 1864.

*Report of Col. H. M. French, Fifth Rhode Island Heavy Artillery,  
to the Adjutant-General at Charleston.*

FIFTH REGIMENT RHODE ISLAND ARTILLERY,  
New River, N. C., May 5, 1861.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the capture by the enemy of a position of great importance, and to submit the following particulars in relation to the matter.

During the month of Georgia, a fort, known as Cretan, N. C., the place is situated on the line of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad, fifteen miles south of New Bern, about half a mile east of Beaufort Creek, and five miles from Havelock, which is the next station on the line. Cretan is an isolated place and exceedingly difficult access except by railroad, and has been held since the capture of New Bern, simply to prevent guerrillas from tearing up the railroad track and cutting the telegraph wires. About 4 o'clock on the morning of the 4th instant the enemy, in considerable force, appeared at Cretan, having effected the crossing at Beaufort Creek at a point above our position. Arriving at the station they immediately commenced their preparation for an attack and to prevent the possibility of our escaping. In the mean time Captain Angier had been informed, and threw his entire command into the fort at that place, and in the very small way, as he under howitzer, and opened a cannonade on the enemy. A desperate fight ensued, but our force was inferior, and the enemy demanded an unconditional surrender. The suggestion of Captain Angier, that, apparently, however, seeing that he could not stand, he capitulated for a short time, he agreed to a conditional surrender, the terms of which I have not been able to ascertain. The statement of Cretan is that the enemy freely acknowledged that our men fought with great gallantry. Fortunately, one of Captain Angier's command was killed and but 1 wounded. The loss of the enemy is not known. Captain White's horse was wounded and died in the ditch beyond the fort where he was shot. The men were allowed, as part of the terms of the surrender, to take two cart loads of property each, which will be of great service to them while they are in prison or in war. About a week prior to their capture they received from the Government, North Carolina, the sum of \$100,000, and had received the full complement of arms, ammunition, &c. How large the force was that made this raid is not known. Cretan is one of a whole line of forts. It is a curious

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MAY 4-JUNE 2, 1864.—Operations on the south side of the

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS

- May 4, 1864.—Advance of the Army of the James.  
5-11, 1864.—Kautz's raid against the Petersburg and including skirmishes at Birch Island Bridge (6th), Stony Creek Station (7th), and J White's Bridge (8th).  
6-7, 1864.—Engagement at Port Walthall Junction and  
7, 1864.—Capture of U. S. gun-boat Shawsheen at Tuxedo  
9, 1864.—Engagement at Fort Clifton.  
Skirmish at Ware Bottom Church.  
Skirmish at Brandon (or Brander's) Bridge.  
Engagement at Swift Creek, or Arrowfield  
10, 1864.—Destruction of Confederate torpedo station, Action at Chester Station.  
12-16, 1864.—Engagement at Proctor's Creek and Drowry (ling).  
12-17, 1864.—Kautz's raid against the Richmond and including skirmish at Flat Creek Bridge (14th).  
16, 1864.—Skirmish at Port Walthall Junction.  
17-June 2, 1864.—Operations on the Bermuda Hundred  
18, 1864.—Skirmish at Foster's Plantation.  
Skirmish at City Point.  
20, 1864.—Skirmish at Ware Bottom Church.  
21, 1864.—Skirmish at Fort Powhatan.

REPORTS, ETC.†

THE UNION ARMY.

- No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commander of Virginia and North Carolina, of operations May 4-June 2, 1864.  
No. 2.—Return of Casualties in the Union Forces commanded by Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, May 5-31.

\* Nominal list shows that 3 officers and 49 enlisted men were killed.  
† Of some of the minor conflicts noted in this summary no report is on file; all such are designated in the Index.  
‡ See also references to these operations in Grant's report of naval co-operation see Annual Report of the Secretary of War, 1864.

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- No. 9. Lieut. George P. Young, Fifth New York Heavy Artillery, Acting Signal Officer, including operations May 6 June 27.
- No. 10. Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore, U. S. Army, commanding Tenth Army Corps, of operations May 1-25.
- No. 11. Lieut. Gen. Alfred H. Terry, U. S. Army, commanding First Division, of operations May 12-16.
- No. 12. Col. Joshua B. Howell, Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Infantry, commanding First Brigade, of operations May 9-10.
- No. 13. Capt. Leroy A. Baker, Thirty-ninth Illinois Infantry, of operations May 11-16.
- No. 14. Capt. Robert P. Hughes, Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Infantry, of operations May 10.
- No. 15. Col. Joseph R. Hawley, Seventh Connecticut Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of operations May 9 June 2.
- No. 16. Col. Redfield Duryee, Sixth Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 9-10.
- No. 17. Lieut. Col. Daniel C. Rodman, Seventh Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 9-11.
- No. 18. Maj. Oliver S. Sanford, Seventh Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 10 and 16.
- No. 19. Capt. Theodore Bacon, Seventh Connecticut Infantry, of operations June 1-2.
- No. 20. Lieut. Col. Josiah L. Plimpton, Third New Hampshire Infantry, of operations May 9 June 2.
- No. 21. Lieut. Col. Thomas A. Henderson, Seventh New Hampshire Infantry, of operations May 9-10.
- No. 22. Col. Joseph C. Abbott, Seventh New Hampshire Infantry, of operations May 12-16.
- No. 23. Col. Harry M. Planted, Eleventh Maine Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, of operations May 7-10.
- No. 24. Col. John L. Orr, Tenth Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 12-16.
- No. 25. Lieut. Col. Winlow P. Spottford, Eleventh Maine Infantry, of operations May 9-16.
- No. 26. Col. Francis A. O'Brien, Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 7-16.
- No. 27. Col. George B. Dandy, One hundredth New York Infantry, of operations May 7 and June 1-2.
- No. 28. Capt. Frank C. Brunck, One hundredth New York Infantry, of operations May 14.
- No. 29. Capt. Alfred P. Rockwell, First Connecticut Battery, of operations May 9-10.
- No. 30. Capt. Zenas C. Warren, Fifth New Jersey Battery, of operations May 10.
- No. 31. Capt. Leomin C. Lampton, Battery M, First U. S. Artillery, of operations May 5-10.

- No. 32.—Brig. Gen. John W. Turner, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division, of operations May 12-16.
- No. 33.—Brig. Gen. John W. Turner, U. S. Army, of operations May 9-10.
- No. 34.—Col. Samuel M. Alford, Third New York Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of operations May 9-16.
- No. 35.—Col. Guy V. Henry, Fortieth Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 12-16.
- No. 36.—Col. Harrison S. Fairchild, Eighty-ninth New York Infantry, of operations May 9.
- No. 37.—Col. N. Martin Curtis, One hundred and forty-second New York Infantry, of operations May 13-16.
- No. 38.—Col. William B. Barton, Forty-eighth New York Infantry, of operations May 7-15.
- No. 39.—Lieut. John H. George, Fourth New Jersey Battery, of operations May 9-10.
- No. 40.—Col. Richard White, Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania Infantry, commanding Third Division, of operations May 9-10.
- No. 41.—Lieut. Col. Henry Boynton, Eighth Maine Infantry, of operations May 9-10.
- No. 42.—Col. Jeremiah C. Drake, One hundred and twelfth New York Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of operations May 6-16.
- No. 43.—Col. Cyrus J. Dobbs, Thirteenth Indiana Infantry, of operations May 6-16.
- No. 44.—Capt. William H. Chaddock, One hundred and twelfth New York Infantry, of operations May 4-16.
- No. 45.—Maj. Gen. William F. Smith, U. S. Army, commanding Second Corps, of operations May 12-16.
- No. 46.—Surg. George Suckley, U. S. Army, Medical Director, of operations May 6-16.
- No. 47.—Capt. Preston C. F. West, Aide-de-Camp, of operations May 6-16.
- No. 48.—Lieut. Campbell Tucker, Aide-de-Camp, of operations May 6-16.
- No. 49.—James A. Scrymser, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp, of operations May 6-16.
- No. 50.—Brig. Gen. William T. H. Brooks, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division, of operations May 7-16.
- No. 51.—Col. Frederick F. Wead, Ninety-eighth New York Infantry, commanding First Brigade, of operations May 12-16.
- No. 52.—Brig. Gen. Hiram Burnham, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division, of operations May 7-16.
- No. 53.—Lieut. Col. Martin B. Smith, Eighth Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 7-16.
- No. 54.—Col. Aaron F. Stevens, Thirteenth New Hampshire Infantry, of operations May 7-16.
- No. 55.—Col. Horace T. Sanders, Nineteenth Wisconsin Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, of operations May 12-16.
- No. 56.—Col. Arthur H. Dutton, Twenty-first Connecticut Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, of operations May 16.
- No. 57.—Lieut. Col. Thomas F. Burpee, Twenty-first Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 15-16.
- No. 58.—Maj. Hiram B. Crosby, Twenty-first Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 25-26.
- No. 59.—Maj. Theodore H. Schenck, Third New York Light Artillery Brigade, of operations May 6-16.
- No. 60.—Capt. George B. Easterly, Fourth Wisconsin Battery, of operations May 7-21.



- No. 61.—Brig. Gen. Godfrey Weitzel, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division, of operations May 9-16.
- No. 62.—Brig. Gen. Charles A. Heckman, U. S. Army, commanding First Brigade, of operations May 6-7.
- No. 63.—Col. Josiah Pickett, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 9-10.
- No. 64.—Lieut. Col. Orson Moulton, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 6-16.
- No. 65.—Lieut. William Daley, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 14-15.
- No. 66.—Lieut. James O'Neill, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 15-16.
- No. 67.—Capt. Henry C. Dwight, Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 15-16.
- No. 68.—Capt. Peter S. Bailey, Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 15-16.
- No. 69.—Lieut. Col. James Stewart, jr., Ninth New Jersey Infantry, of operations May 15-16.
- No. 70.—Col. Griffin A. Stedman, jr., Eleventh Connecticut Infantry, Second Brigade, of operations May 12-16.
- No. 71.—Capt. George E. Ashby, Battery E, Third New York Light Artillery, of operations May 12-16.
- No. 72.—Brig. Gen. Edward W. Hinks, U. S. Army, commanding Third Division, of operations May 5-18.
- No. 73.—Col. Joseph B. Kiddoo, Twenty-second U. S. Colored Infantry, First Brigade, of operations May 21.
- No. 74.—Col. Samuel A. Duncan, Fourth U. S. Colored Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of operations May 18.
- No. 75.—Col. Benjamin F. Onderdonk, First New York Mounted Rifles (unattached troops), of operations May 7-19.
- No. 76.—Brig. Gen. August V. Kautz, U. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division, of operations May 5-17.
- No. 77.—Col. Simon H. Mix, Third New York Cavalry, commanding First Brigade, of operations May 5-10.
- No. 78.—Maj. Ferris Jacobs, jr., Third New York Cavalry, commanding First Brigade, of operations May 12-17.
- No. 79.—Maj. J. Stannard Baker, First District of Columbia Cavalry, of operations May 5-17.
- No. 80.—Maj. Ferris Jacobs, jr., Third New York Cavalry, of operations May 5-10.
- No. 81.—Maj. Newton Hall, Third New York Cavalry, of operations May 12-17.
- No. 82.—Col. Samuel P. Spear, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, commanding Second Brigade, of operations May 5-17.
- No. 83.—Lieut. Col. Christopher Kleinz, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, of operations May 8.
- No. 84.—Lieut. Col. George Stetzel, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, of operations May 5-17.
- No. 85.—Col. Henry L. Abbot, First Connecticut Heavy Artillery, commanding Siege Train and Siege Artillery, of operations May 10-June 4.
- No. 86.—Capt. William G. Pride, First Connecticut Heavy Artillery, of operations June 2.
- No. 87.—Col. George W. Cole, Second U. S. Colored Cavalry (unattached), of operations May 13-15.

## THE CONFEDERATE ARMY.

- No. 88.—General G. T. Beauregard, C. S. Army, commanding Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, of operations May 16-June 2.
- No. 89.—Maj. Gen. Daniel H. Hill, C. S. Army, of operations May 16.
- No. 90.—Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, jr., C. S. Army, commanding Department of Richmond, of operations May 16.
- No. 91.—Brig. Gen. Seth M. Barton, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of operations May 10.
- No. 92.—Col. George K. Griggs, Thirty-eighth Virginia Infantry, of operations May 3-27.
- No. 93.—Maj. Gen. Robert F. Hoke, C. S. Army, commanding division, of operations May 16.
- No. 94.—Lieut. Col. George C. Cabell, Eighteenth Virginia Infantry, Corse's brigade, of operations May 16.
- No. 95.—Brig. Gen. Bushrod R. Johnson, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of operations May 6-11.
- No. 96.—Col. John S. Fulton, Forty-fourth Tennessee Infantry, commanding Johnson's brigade, of operations May 7.
- No. 97.—Col. R. H. Keeble, Twenty-third Tennessee Infantry, commanding Seventeenth and Twenty-third Tennessee Infantry, of operations May 4-16.
- No. 98.—Capt. William N. James, commanding Twenty-fifth and Forty-fourth Tennessee Infantry, of operations May 16.
- No. 99.—Col. Abraham Fulkerson, Sixty-third Tennessee Infantry, of operations May 9.
- No. 100.—Brig. Gen. Johnson Hagood, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of operations May 6-16.
- No. 101.—Col. Robert F. Graham, Twenty-first South Carolina Infantry, of operations May 6.
- No. 102.—Maj. Gen. William H. C. Whiting, C. S. Army, commanding division, of operations May 16-17.
- No. 103.—Brig. Gen. Henry A. Wise, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of operations May 16-20.
- No. 104.—Capt. George D. Wise, Assistant Inspector-General, of operations June 2.
- No. 105.—Col. William B. Tabb, Fifty-ninth Virginia Infantry, of operations May 8.
- No. 106.—Brig. Gen. James G. Martin, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of operations May 20.
- No. 107.—Maj. Alexander W. Stark, Stark's Battalion Virginia Artillery, of the capture of the U. S. gun-boat Shawshcen at Turkey Island, May 7.
- No. 108.—Brig. Gen. Stephen Elliott, jr., C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of operations June 2.
- No. 109.—Capt. W. L. Trenholm, Seventh South Carolina Cavalry, of operation: May 15-16.
- No. 110.—Lieut. Col. Wyatt M. Elliott, Twenty-fifth Virginia Battalion, Hunton's brigade, of the capture of the U. S. gun-boat Shawshcen at Turkey Island.

## No. 1.

*Reports of Maj. Gen. Benjamin R. Buller, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina, of operations May 4-20.*

HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD,  
Near Bermuda Landing, May 9, 1864.

(Received 12 noon, 10th.)

Our operations may be summed up in a few words. With 1,500 cavalry we have advanced up the Peninsula, forced the Chicka-

hominny, and have safely brought them to our present position. These were colored cavalry, and are now holding our advance pickets toward Richmond. General Kautz, with 3,000 cavalry from Suffolk, on the same day with our movement up James River, forced the Blackwater, burned the railroad bridge at Stony Creek, below Petersburg, cutting in two Beauregard's force at that point, and is now operating against Hicksford and Weldon. We have landed here, intrenched ourselves, destroyed many miles of railroad, and got a position which, with proper supplies, we can hold out against the whole of Lee's army. I have ordered up the supplies. Beauregard, with a large portion of his command, was left south by the cutting of the railroads by Kautz. That portion which reached Petersburg under Hill I have whipped to-day, killing and wounding many, and taking many prisoners, after a severe and well-contested fight. General Grant will not be troubled with any further reinforcements to Lee from Beauregard's force.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,  
*Major-General.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,  
*Secretary of War.*

IN THE FIELD, NEAR CHESTER STATON, VA.,  
May 12, 1864. 3.30 p. m. (Via Fort Monroe.)  
(Received 4.30 a. m., 13th.)

I am now pressing the enemy near Fort Darling. I have before me all the troops from North Carolina and South Carolina that have got up. Beauregard's courier, captured this morning going to General Hoke, in command of Drewry's Bluff, had dispatch that Beauregard would join him as soon as the rest of his troops came up. I have left General Gillmore to hold our intrenchments while General Smith demonstrates upon Drewry and the enemy's lines. While this demonstration is going on I have sent General Kautz with his cavalry force to cut the Danville railroad near Appomattox Station, and perhaps he can advance on James River. Will do all I can, but the country is a terrible one to operate in. Please communicate this to General Grant. He will see at once where we are.

B. F. BUTLER,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,  
*Secretary of War.*

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,  
May 17, 1864. (Received 8.30 p. m.)

On Thursday, May 12, as stated in my last dispatch, I sent out General Kautz with orders to cut the Danville road, thoroughly destroy the iron bridge across the Appomattox, and then, if possible, to cut the canal on the James—the only remaining line of transportation to Richmond—and thence to cross the Appomattox and cut the Weldon railroad at Hicksford, so as to imprison the transportation between Hicksford and Stony Creek, where it was obliged to be massed because of the former cutting at the latter place. To prevent Kautz

being interrupted or followed until at least he was well advanced, and to concentrate the troops on this command that were marching round from Petersburg, so that they should not re-enforce Lee. I marched my whole column, leaving a force of observation upon the enemy at Petersburg, and made demonstration upon the intrenched lines of the enemy around Drewry's Bluff, and remained before them until I learned from the Richmond press that General Kautz had cut the railroad at Coalfield and had safely arrived at the bridge over the Appomattox. Meanwhile we had assaulted and carried the first line of the enemy's works which extends from Drewry's Bluff over the railroad and around to Manchester. On Monday morning about sunrise the enemy, having received re-enforcements which made them then equal to my command, taking advantage of a very thick fog, made an attack upon the right of General Smith's line, and forced it back in some confusion and with considerable loss. As soon as the fog lifted General Smith's lines were established and the enemy was driven back to his original lines. The troops having been on incessant duty for five days, three of which were in a rain-storm, I retired at leisure within my own lines. At the same time with the attack upon my front the enemy made an attack upon the forces guarding my rear from Petersburg, in an endeavor to get possession of my intrenched lines. The attack was handsomely repulsed. We hold the railroad between Petersburg and Richmond. Prisoners inform us that Davis and Bragg were present in person.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,

*Major-General, Commanding.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,  
*Secretary of War.*

HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD, May 18, 1861.

(Via Fort Monroe, 19th.)

(Received 7.25 a. m.)

General Kautz returned last night to City Point with his command. He cut the Danville railroad at Coalfield Station, Powhatan, and Chula Stations, burning depot, water-tanks, and two freight trains and a locomotive, with large quantity of commissary and other stores; then, crossing below, cut the Petersburg and Lynchburg Railroad at Wilson's, Wellville, and Blacks and Whites Stations, destroying switches, tanks, station-houses, and the track for many hundred feet; then, crossing the Petersburg and Weldon road at Jarratt's Station, again burned the water-tank, newly built since the former cutting, tore up the track and destroyed the rails, some of which had been relaid, although much twisted by the fire — altogether a most successful expedition. The enemy are now moving down from Richmond in large force to cover the turnpike and railroad opposite my position, so as to repair it. We have captured some of Longstreet's men and the Charleston (South Carolina) City Battalion.

B. F. BUTLER,

*Major-General, Commanding.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,  
*Secretary of War.*

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS, May 20, 1861 - 10 p. m.

(Received 7.40 a. m., 21st.)

Have been fighting all day. Enemy are endeavoring to close in on our line. We shall hold on. Have captured rebel General Walker, of Texas troops. Sheridan is at White House and has sent for a pontoon bridge, which I have forwarded him. Have also sent one of my army gun-boats with launches up the Rappahannock, as requested.

B. F. BUTLER.

SECRETARY OF WAR.

No. 2.

*Return of Casualties in the Union Forces, commanded by Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army (compiled from nominal lists of casualties, returns, &c.), May 31.*

Includes engagements at Blackwater River (May 6), Fort Walthall and Chester Station (May 12th), Forts A. C. Johnston, the Jarratt's Station and White's Bridge (8th), Swift Creek, or Archer's Station (May 13th), Forts A. C. Johnston, 10th, Proctor's Creek and Drewry's Bluff, or Fort Darling (14th), The Creek, Fort Henry, Chick's Depot (15th), Foster's Landing (18th), Ware Bottom Church (19th), Warsaw Wharf (19th), and Bermuda Hundred (20th, &c., 21st, 22d).

Command	Killed		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Total.
	Union.	Confederate.	Union.	Confederate.	Union.	Confederate.	
<b>THIRD ARMY CORPS</b>							
Maj. Gen. Ignace A. Gilman							
1st Division							
Maj. Gen. VICTOR H. DORR							
1st Brigade							
Col. CHARLES B. HICKS							
1st Regt.	1	11	9	103	1	13	153
2d Regt.	"	19	3	121			143
3d Regt.	"	"	3	29	"	"	31
Total 1st Brigade	1	31	11	252	1	50	351
2d Brigade							
Col. JOSEPH E. HANNA							
1st Regt.	"	8	6	101	1	20	132
2d Regt.	"	28	"	102	1	68	233
3d Regt.	"	30	1	128	1	16	237
4th Regt.	"	"	"	11		1	19
Total 2d Brigade	"	66	16	342	2	105	631
3d Brigade							
Col. HENRY M. PROCTOR							
1st Regt.		5	1	29			35
2d Regt.	1	1	2	41			50
3d Regt.	1	"	1	1			3
4th Regt.		10	"	111	1	115	240
Total 3d Brigade		16	3	182	1	131	396

The 2d and 3d Divisions were temporarily organized May 30 as the 1st Division, Eighteenth Army Corps, and continued until the return from Cold Harbor, see Part I, p. 149. For organization of Butler's command in the field May 20, 1861, see Part I, p. 116.

*Return of Casualties in the Union forces, &c.—Continued.*

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
<i>Artillery.</i>							
Connecticut Light, 1st Battery .....		1	1	14			16
New Jersey Light, 5th Battery .....				12			12
3d United States, Battery E*.....		1	1	1			3
Total artillery .....		2	2	27			31
Total First Division.....	14	134	43	937	7	307	1,442
SECOND DIVISION.							
Brig. Gen. JOHN. W. TURNER.							
<i>First Brigade.</i>							
Col. SAMUEL M. ALFORD.							
40th Massachusetts.....		13	4	58	1	21	97
3d New York .....		3	2	53		8	66
89th New York .....				6			6
117th New York .....	1	19	3	59	1	6	89
142d New York .....		19	5	73		22	119
Total First Brigade.....	1	54	14	240	2	57	377
<i>Second Brigade.</i>							
Col. WILLIAM B. BARTON.							
47th New York .....	2	4	2	33		20	61
48th New York .....	1	14	4	96			115
115th New York .....		6	1	86		7	100
76th Pennsylvania.....	1	14		119		10	144
Total Second Brigade .....	4	38	7	334		37	420
<i>Artillery.</i>							
New Jersey Light, 4th Battery.....		1	1	9			11
1st United States, Battery B .....							
1st United States, Battery D .....							
Total artillery .....		1	1	9			11
Total Second Division .....	5	93	22	592	2	94	808
THIRD DIVISION.							
Brig. Gen. ADELBERT AMES.							
<i>First Brigade.</i>							
Col. RICHARD WHITE.† Col. LOUIS BELL. Col. HENRY R. GUSS.‡							
8th Maine .....		16	7	143	2	30	198
4th New Hampshire.....		7	4	86		85	182
55th Pennsylvania.....	1	21	8	147	5	159	341
97th Pennsylvania.....	1	28	9	177		22	237
Total First Brigade .....	2	72	28	553	7	296	958
<i>Second Brigade.</i>							
Col. JEREMIAH C. DRAKE.							
13th Indiana.....	1	10	6	87	1	58	172
9th Maine .....		14	5	86		7	112
112th New York .....		3	3	25	1	3	35
169th New York .....	1	15	1	78		24	119
Total Second Brigade.....	2	51	15	276	2	92	438

\* Transferred from Third Division May 21.

† Captured May 16.

‡ Assumed command May 18.

*Return of Casualties in the Union forces, &c.—Continued.*

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
<i>Artillery.</i>							
New York Light, 1st Battery							
3d Rhode Island Light, Battery C					1		1
1st United States, Battery M					4		5
Total Artillery		1		5			6
Total Third Division	1	124	13	831	9	398	1,402
<i>ENGINEERS.</i>							
Col. EDWARD W. STURTEVANT.							
1st New York Light Company					2		2
<i>CAVALRY.</i>							
Capt. FRANCIS RICHMOND.							
4th Massachusetts (1st Battalion)					2		2
Total Tenth Army Corps	23	351	108	2,367	48	789	3,656
<i>FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS.</i>							
Maj. Gen. WILLIAM F. SMITH.							
<i>FIRST DIVISION.</i>							
Brig. Gen. WILLIAM T. H. BROOKS.							
<i>First Brigade.</i>							
Brig. Gen. GEORGE MEADON.							
91st New York		1	1	22		1	24
96th New York	1	3		9	1	17	31
98th New York	1	11	3	64		12	91
120th New York			1	8	1	9	19
Total First Brigade	2	15	5	103	2	42	173
<i>Second Brigade.</i>							
Brig. Gen. THOMAS BUSHMAN.							
9th Connecticut	1	9	6	67		31	137
10th New Hampshire		1	5	44		3	56
12th New Hampshire		5	1	22		1	29
14th New York	3	39	3	108	1	42	190
Total Second Brigade	4	57	15	261	1	80	421
<i>Third Brigade.</i>							
Col. HORACE T. FARMER.							
Col. AUGUST H. DUFFES.							
Brig. Gen. CHARLES DAVIS, JR.							
9th Connecticut		14	7	61		21	109
94th New York							
98th Pennsylvania				9			9
108th Pennsylvania		8	4	78		1	89
Total Third Brigade		22	11	141		25	190

† Transferred from First Division May 24.  
 ‡ Wounded May 17 and mortally wounded May 26.

*Return of Casualties in the Union forces, &c.—Continued.*

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
<i>Artillery Brigade.</i>							
Maj. THEODORE H. SCHENCK.							
Wisconsin Light, 4th Battery.....				2			2
4th United States, Battery L.....						1	1
5th United States, Battery A.....				2			2
Total Artillery Brigade.....				4		1	5
Total First Division.....	6	97	28	512	6	118	797
SECOND DIVISION.							
Brig. Gen. GODFREY WEITZEL.							
Brig. Gen. JOHN H. MARTINDALE.*							
<i>First Brigade.</i>							
Brig. Gen. CHARLES A. HECKMAN.†							
Brig. Gen. GEORGE J. STANNARD.							
Staff.....					1		1
23d Massachusetts.....		5	2	23		62	92
25th Massachusetts.....	1	25	3	119		66	214
27th Massachusetts.....	1	12	4	79	9	240	345
9th New Jersey.....	2	16	10	153	3	55	239
Total First Brigade.....	4	58	19	374	13	323	801
<i>Second Brigade.</i>							
Col. GRIFFIN A. STEDMAN, JR.							
Brig. Gen. ISAAC J. WISTAR.‡							
Col. GRIFFIN A. STEDMAN, JR.§							
11th Connecticut.....		15	2	63	2	125	207
2d New Hampshire.....	1	4	1	17			23
12th New Hampshire.....		3		35		7	45
148th New York.....		12	4	60		2	78
Total Second Brigade.....	1	34	7	175	2	134	353
<i>Artillery Brigade.</i>							
Capt. FREDERICK M. FOLLETT.							
New York Light, 7th Battery.....							
3d New York Light, Battery E.....			2	6		3	11
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery F.....		3		14	1	3	21
4th United States, Battery D.....		1		13			14
Total Artillery Brigade.....		4	2	33	1	6	46
Total Second Division.....	5	96	28	582	16	563	1,290
THIRD DIVISION.							
Brig. Gen. EDWARD W. HINKS.							
<i>First Brigade.</i>							
Brig. Gen. EDWARD A. WILD.							
Staff.....							
1st U. S. Colored Troops.....			1				1
10th U. S. Colored Troops.....		2	1	14		1	18
22d U. S. Colored Troops.....				2			2
37th U. S. Colored Troops.....							
Total First Brigade.....		2	2	16		1	21

\* Assumed command May 30.

† Captured May 16.

‡ Assumed command May 7.

§ Resumed command May 18.



*Return of Casualties in the Union forces, &c. Continued.*

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
<i>Second Brigade.</i>							
Col. SAMUEL A. DENNEY.							
4th U. S. Colored Troops				4			4
5th U. S. Colored Troops		2		6		3	11
6th U. S. Colored Troops				5			5
Total Second Brigade		2		15		3	20
<i>Artillery.</i>							
3d New York Light, Battery K				1			1
3d New York Light, Battery M				2			2
2d U. S. Colored Light, Battery B							
Total artillery				3			3
<i>Unattached.</i>							
5th Massachusetts Cavalry (dismounted)							
10th New York Heavy Artillery, Companies A and H							
2d U. S. Colored Cavalry, Company D							
Total Third Division		4	2	31		4	41
<i>UNATTACHED.</i>							
1st New York Mounted Rifle		1		8		4	13
19th Wisconsin <sup>2</sup>		4		30		1	35
Total unattached		5		38		5	48
Total Eighteenth Army Corps	11	202	58	1,166	22	720	2,170
<i>CAVALRY DIVISION.</i>							
Brig. Gen. ARTHUR V. KAUTZ.							
<i>First Brigade.</i>							
Col. BOWEN H. MIX.							
1st District of Columbia		2	1	8		9	20
3d New York	1	2	1	19		11	23
Total First Brigade	1	4	2	27		20	37
<i>Second Brigade.</i>							
Col. SAMUEL P. SHERMAN.							
5th Pennsylvania		2	1	16		4	23
11th Pennsylvania	1	6	1	13		4	25
Total Second Brigade	1	8	2	29		8	46
<i>Artillery.</i>							
New York Light, 7th Battery section							
Total Cavalry Division	2	12	4	56		31	105
<i>SIEGE ARTILLERY.</i>							
Col. HENRY T. AMMON.							
1st Connecticut Heavy Artillery		3		2			5
3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, Company M							
Total Siege Artillery		3		2			5

<sup>2</sup> Detached from Third Brigade, First Division, May 17.

*Return of Casualties in the Union forces, &c.—Continued.*

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
UNATTACHED CAVALRY.							
1st U. S. Colored .....		22		3			5
2d U. S. Colored .....	1		1	4			8
Total unattached cavalry .....	1	4	1	7			13
PONTONIERS.							
Capt. JOHN PICKERING, JR.							
Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, 13th Company....							
Total Army of the James .....	37	572	171	3,598	40	1,540	5,938

## OFFICERS KILLED OR MORTALLY WOUNDED.

## CONNECTICUT.

Lieut. George Metcalf, 1st Battery.	Lieut. Charles A. Wood, 7th Infantry.
Capt. Horatio D. Eaton, 6th Infantry.	Capt. John McCall, 8th Infantry.
Capt. Jay P. Wilcox, 6th Infantry.	Lieut. Levi C. Bingham, 8th Infantry.
Lieut. William T. Bradley, 6th Infantry.	Lieut. Alfred M. Goddard, 8th Infantry.
Lieut. Frank Hull, 7th Infantry.	Col. Arthur H. Dutton, 21st Infantry.

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Lieut. Henry W. Jackson, 1st Cavalry.

## ILLINOIS.

Capt. James Wightman, 39th Infantry. | Lieut. Joseph D. Walker, 39th Infantry.

## INDIANA.

Lieut. Alfred Dawdy, 13th Infantry.

## MAINE.

Lieut. William Brannan, 11th Infantry.

## MASSACHUSETTS.

Lieut. Col. John G. Chambers, 23d Infantry.	Lieut. Mason A. Rea, 24th Infantry.
Lieut. Richard P. Wheeler, 23d Infantry.	Lieut. Charles G. Ward, 24th Infantry.
Lieut. Edgar Clough, 24th Infantry.	Lieut. Charles E. Upton, 25th Infantry.
	Capt. Charles D. Sanford, 27th Infantry.
	Lieut. Pliny Wood, 27th Infantry.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Capt. James H. Platt, 2d Infantry.	Lieut. Eugene J. Button, 3d Infantry.
Capt. Henry C. Ayer, 3d Infantry.	Maj. Charles W. Sawyer, 4th Infantry.
Capt. Richard Ela, 3d Infantry.	Lieut. John A. Eaton, 10th Infantry.

## NEW JERSEY.

Col. Abram Zabriskie, 9th Infantry.	Capt. Joseph B. Lawrence, 9th Infantry.
Capt. Edwin S. Harris, 9th Infantry.	Lieut. Edward S. Carrell, 9th Infantry.

*Return of Casualties in the Union Forces, &c.—Continued.*

NEW YORK.

Lieut. John Mayes, 5d Cavalry.	Lieut. Col. Elial P. Carpenter, 112th In-
Lieut. George L. Schloendorff, 17th In-	fantry.
Lieut. John A. Smith, 17th Infantry.	Capt. George W. Brigham, 117th In-
Capt. Samuel H. Moser, 18th Infantry.	fantry.
Capt. Walter H. Benedict, 96th Infan-	Lieut. William C. Casselman, 117th In-
try.	fantry.
Lieut. Albert B. Phelps, 98th Infantry.	Capt. John S. Stone, 118th Infantry.
Lieut. James H. French, 100th Infantry.	Lieut. William H. Stevenson, 118th In-
Lieut. Azor H. Hoyt, 100th Infantry.	fantry.
	Lieut. Edgar M. Wing, 118th Infantry.
	Lieut. Walter S. Birdsall, 169th Infantry.

OHIO.

Capt. George Emerson, 65th Infantry.	Lieut. John C. Cochrane, 67th Infantry.
Lieut. George M. Ballard, 67th Infantry.	Lieut. Henry M. Wallick, 67th Infantry.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Lieut. Daniel H. Schriyer, 11th Cavalry.	Lieut. Isaac Pawkes, 97th Infantry.
Lieut. John H. Barnhart, 55th Infantry.	Capt. Hiram R. Shinkel, 188th Infantry.
Capt. Jacob J. Young, 76th Infantry.	

U. S. COLORED TROOPS.

Lieut. Thomas B. Mains, 2d Cavalry.

No. 3.

*Return of Casualties in the Union Forces, commanded by Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, June 1-14.*

[Compiled from nominal lists of casualties, returns, &c.]

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Colored.	White.	Colored.	White.	Colored.	White.	
1st Connecticut Heavy Artillery		1					1
6th Connecticut Infantry				3			3
7th Connecticut Infantry		1	3	18	4	74	103
1st District of Columbia Cavalry				4			6
39th Illinois Infantry *	1	2	2	22		11	38
11th Maine Infantry *		3	3	33		4	43
1th Massachusetts Cavalry, 1st Battalion		1		2			3
5th New Hampshire Infantry		3		6			9
1th New Hampshire Infantry				2			2
1st New York Mounted Rifle		1		2			3
6th Ohio Infantry				5			5
5th Pennsylvania Cavalry		1		12	1		15
11th Pennsylvania Cavalry		3		11		3	17
3d Rhode Island Artillery, Battery C				1			1
1st U. S. Colored Cavalry		2					2
5th U. S. Colored Cavalry		2					2
6th U. S. Colored Cavalry		1		3			4
Total	1	21	10	121	5	93	257

\* Lieut. Col. Winslow P. Spofford, 11th Maine, mortally wounded June 2, and Lieut. Albert W. Fellows, 39th Illinois, killed June 2.

## No. 4.

*Report of Capt. Lemuel B. Norton, U. S. Army, Chief  
Department of Virginia and North Carolina, from  
April 19-June 14.*

HDQRS. DEPT. VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER  
Se

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the signal detachment in this department from the 19th of April to the 31st of August, 1864, including the campaign on the James River:

On the 19th of April, in obedience to Special Order No. 51, War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, I assumed command of this detachment as chief of the signal department. Upon reporting to the chief of staff of the department that active operations would soon be commenced, I immediately prepared my corps for important service. (The work then being performed by the detachment consisted of eight signal stations were in operation in the District of North Carolina and six in the District of Virginia. Those of the general commanding our forces at New Berne covered all parts of his picket-line and with three forts did so. Whenever the enemy threatened or attacked our line of New Berne the signal communication established was of the utmost importance, enabling the commanding officer to concentrate his forces at the point of attack, and making the line defensible by a less number of men than it would have required. Four of the stations in the District of North Carolina constituted a line of signals which connected the left and right intrenchments south and west of Portsmouth with the headquarters of Brigadier-General Heckman, who commanded the division. In case of an assault the signal communication thus established would have materially assisted in the defense. There were two stations at Yorktown and one at Gloucester Point communicating with each other, and by means of which during an attack the fire of the batteries located at the other could be directed against the enemy. The same two stations were employed each day in the transmission of official dispatches, daily after the concentration of the Eighteenth Army Corps at Yorktown and the Tenth at Gloucester Point. In the event of an active campaign, more officers, signal equipment, transportation, clothing, camp equipage, and quartermaster's stores were needed and more men (second lieutenants) were procured from the ranks in accordance with Circular Orders of April 21, 1864, headquarters of Virginia and North Carolina, and placed under my command. Two signal officers, who had been on duty at New Berne, were directed to report to me (one by the commanding

Washington upon my telegraphic requisitions. The horses, mules, team-rotation, &c., were furnished in good time by the different departments, and at the commencement of the expedition the detachment was almost thoroughly equipped, and amply supplied for successfully accomplishing any legitimate work that might be required of it. In view of a contemplated movement up the river the following assignments were made: Cap. Duncanson, with a party of 8 signal officers, to the Tenth Army Corps; and two hundred intelligent sergeants (who had been instructed in the use of equipments and designed to act in the capacity of officers, should their services be thus needed). Lieut. T. E. Patterson, with a party of 4 signal officers and mounted, similarly equipped, to the Eighteenth Army Corps. Lieut. H. W. Benson, to duty with Acting Rear-Admiral Sigsbee, on board the *Malvern*, flag-ship of the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron. Second Lieut. P. Carpenter (who was relieved of duty in the District of North Carolina), to the flag-ship of the South Atlantic Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Charles K. Graham. A small depot of supplies was left at Camp Hamilton, near Fort Monroe, under the charge of an officer of the last detail who was sufficiently instructed to be able to take the field.

On the 11th of May I was informed that the Tenth and Eighteenth Army Corps were ordered to embark upon transports, which, by that time, were in rendezvous in Hampton Roads preparatory to moving early on the following morning on an expedition up the River. In anticipation of this movement, some of the signal officers and sergeants previously assigned to corps were soon afterwards detached to the division and brigades of those corps. Division commanders, every corps commander had with him upon the steamer upon which he had his headquarters, the means of communicating by signal with the commanding officers as they moved up the river. In consequence of the scarcity of signal officers in the department, could be spared even at this important juncture) to the major, who, therefore, remained upon the flag-ship. In the evening of the 11th I was directed by the commanding general to embark with my staff and sail on board the steamer *Greyhound*, and I obeyed orders at once, taking with me as assistants the acting quartermaster and acting adjutant of the detachment.

The trip up the river commenced at an early hour on the 12th, and reports were frequently brought into requisition by the numerous general and his subordinate commanders in the tracing of orders and the making of inquiries. The first landing made by W. F. F. brigade at Wilson's Wharf, on the north side of the river, and the signal officer with that command immediately landed with them on shore and communicated with the different commands as they passed that point. The next place occupied was Powhatan, on the south side of the river, 7 miles above W. F. F. Wharf, and here [left] Stafford's brigade, with the signal officer, after at once prepared to communicate with the post at Powhatan, and with Wilson's Wharf. We then pushed on to City Point, and there a landing was effected by General Hinks with Duncanson's

Hinks' signal officer immediately occupied the end from there opened communication with general board the Greyhound and with other boats as the After the capture of City Point we then ascended mile to Bermuda Hundred, which was occupied the remainder of the Eighteenth Corps. During the 5th general headquarters remained on the Greyhound and the different headquarters still on boats in the

Early on the morning of May 6 an officer was sent from the old rebel signal station at Bermuda, and communication once from it to General Hinks' headquarters at Port Walthall, his signal officer occupied a rebel Hill, which was abandoned on our approach, and communication with City Point, and through the general headquarters on board the Greyhound. On the signal officer at Wilson's Wharf accompanied a detachment of the First U. S. Colored Troops, which captured the rebel party and equipments at Sandy Point, on the James. The enemy's signalist made an armed defense, and the signal officer and 3 of his men were killed before the surrender. The record of all the dispatches and reports sent and received at that rebel station was captured and forwarded to the general. It was noticed that while our fleet was at Bermuda on the 5th of May the enemy's stations on both sides were engaged in reporting our movements until the capture of the City Point station, when their line of communication was severed. The Sandy Point station alluded to above was thus cut off from the terminus, and it would never have been captured had not the sergeant in charge placed a too light upon his orders, which were to remain at his post until ordered by the Yankees." Signal communication was kept up between the flag-ship of Admiral Lee and general headquarters. On the 7th an officer was sent to Turkey Bend, a temporary intermediate station between the flag-ship and the general headquarters, moved up the James to Curl's Neck and general headquarters on the Greyhound. Through this line Admiral Lee made an official report (to the Navy Department and to the general headquarters) of the loss of the gun-boats Shawshen and Commodore, the former having been destroyed by a rebel battery on the 5th by a rebel torpedo. On the same day, the Tenth Army Corps taking a position with its right resting on the opposite Farrar's Island, a station of observation was established at the Curtis house, near that point, and an office was established to watch the rebel signal stations on the north bank of the James between Drewry's and Ball's Bluffs batteries. His observations were reported to Major-General Gillmore. On May 8, the army moved up the Appomattox River to protect the line of communication was opened between the flag-ship and the general headquarters, moved up the James to Curl's Neck and general headquarters, which latter was moved into the afternoon of this day. On the 9th a reconnaissance toward Petersburg was made by Hinks' division from the Greyhound. Communication by signals was kept up between the

the enemy's front, and killing them. On the same day the signal service of the army, by the Petersburg and Richmond lines, and by the turnpike flag signals, were operated by the signal detachment of the Tenth Corps engaged in destruction of the headquarters of Major-General Gillmore. The signal detachment of the above-mentioned expedition returned on the 14th, and the return march signal communication was by the line. John W. Turner, commanding the rear guard, was on the line. On the 11th flag signals were established between our intrenchments from General Ames' headquarters, No. 3, to General Terry's headquarters at the Curtis house, and with Admiral Lee, whose iron-clads were positioned off our line on the James River opposite Barran Point. On the 12th Colonel Duncan with his brigade, of Hinks' division, was ordered to occupy and fortify Spring Hill on the south of Appomattox, opposite Point of Rocks, and communication was opened for him with his division commander, Bull, and through the Cobb's Hill station with Major Smith, commanding the corps. On this day another general communication to get possession of the Petersburg and Richmond turnpikes. Notwithstanding the thickly wooded country, the signal detachment was usefully employed. On the 13th signal communication was maintained day and night between the headquarters of the army, commanding at Cheatham's house, near Kingsland, and of General Smith, near the Half-Way House, on page 10. On the 14th a station was placed at the Half-Way House, occupied as the temporary headquarters of the general, communicating with one at our advanced line, near the river, and with an officer placed on the right of our position. The river, to observe the movements of the enemy. The communication by flag was had between General Smith, commanding at Front's house (which was also General Bull's headquarters), and General Gillmore, commanding the left.

Early in the morning of the 16th, during a very dense fog, our troops were attacked and driven back a short distance. Communication was opened between headquarters of the commanding general at Cheatham's house, and of the general at the Half-Way House, near which we occupied our position on the field. Afterward our troops were forced back, and General Gillmore's command was drawn to the left and formed in rear of the center. Signal communication during this change, between General Smith, commanding at the turnpike and his troops while they were on the line west of the railroad. Late in afternoon of the 16th the enemy returned to its intrenchments, and the right position occupied therein were reopened.

During the retreat of the enemy upon our intrenchments, our batteries were placed at Battery 6 and Battery 1, both of which, with Battery 3, the former also with the Cobb's Hill station, Battery No. 1, also with the Curtis house, on Jarratt's road, a line of signals around the intrenchments from the headquarters near Cobb's Hill, to the flagship Malve done, and between the different batteries, enabling them

in the James. It was from this latter station that the enemy's movements among the James were discovered and reported, and some of our important signal dispatches intercepted.\*

I have the honor to be, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,

*Capt. and Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of Va. and N. C.*

W. R. L. DAVIS,

*1st Lt. Adj. Gen., Dept. of Va. and N. C.*

No. 5.

*Report of Capt. Gustavus S. Dana, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, including operations April 17 June 19.*

HIGGINS, SIGNAL DETACHMENT, TENTH ARMY CORPS,

*In the Field, Va., June 1, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of operations from the time of leaving the Department of the South on May 31, 1864:

On the 17th of April, 1864, I embarked on the steamer Northern Light, in obedience to Special Orders, No. 163, headquarters Department of the South, accompanied by First Lieuts. Wilson Bruyn and Geo. F. Cross, and Second Lieuts. Charles Weibl, Fred. J. Amsden, W. W. Clemens, Oscar B. Ireland, Nathan B. Roberts, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, and Second Lieut. Frank L. Morrill, acting pay officer, and 36 men. Arrived at Gloucester Point, Va., where we camped, April 22. An officer was immediately stationed at pay headquarters, Fort Keyes, to communicate with General Bull's headquarters at Yorktown. In obedience to orders received from headquarters Department of Virginia and North Carolina, I reported to Capt. L. B. Norton, chief signal officer, Department of Virginia and North Carolina, on the 24th of April. Soon after reaching Gloucester Point I made requisition for the necessary supplies for the outfit of my party, which was only partly furnished; even so that all my men are mounted. On the 3d of May I received orders from General A. H. Terry, temporarily commanding Tenth Army Corps, to assign an officer to each division and brigade, as far as possible, and accordingly made the following disposition of my party: First Lieut. Charles F. Cross, First Division; First Lieut. Geo. Bruyn, Second Division; Second Lieut. F. J. Amsden, Third Division; Second Lieut. N. B. Roberts, First Brigade, First Division; Second Lieut. Charles Weibl, Third Brigade, First Division; Second Lieut. W. W. Clemens, First Brigade, Second Division; Second Lieut. F. L. Morrill, First Brigade, Third Division; Second Lieut. Oscar B. Ireland and myself to accompany pay headquarters. I also assigned Sergts. S. M. Reed and J. D. Person, with signal equipments, for temporary duty to the Second Brigade, First Division, and Second Brigade, Second Division, respectively. Communication between headquarters Tenth Army Corps and Yorktown was discontinued on the evening of May 4,



On the 20th also about 3,000 of the enemy's cavalry, under Fitzhugh Lee, attacked Wild's brigade at Wilson's Wharf, and during the fight, which lasted from 2 till 6 p. m., the signal officer at that post directed the fire of the gun-boats upon the enemy and kept up constant communication with Fort Powhatan, 7 miles distant, and where was located the nearest force that could afford assistance, if necessary. For these services then rendered the signal officer and his party received the thanks of the general commanding the post. On the 25th a code for rocket alarm signals was devised by Major-General Smith and his signal officer, and rockets furnished by this department to be used along our picket-line in case the enemy should make any demonstration at night. The same code and system was adopted by General Gillmore on the 26th for the right of the line, and his pickets were also furnished with rockets. On the 27th, by consent of the chief of staff, 3 signal officers were relieved from the Tenth Army Corps and assigned to duty with the mobile column of Major-General Smith, who had at that time but 1 signal officer in his new command of 20,000 men, and who requested that he be furnished with 3 more. On the 30th I accompanied the general commanding to a point on the Appomattox, opposite Port Walthall, and enabled him by means of signals to direct the fire of Spring Hill Fort upon the railroad at Walthall Junction. On the 31st about 700 of the enemy attacked Duncan's brigade, posted at Spring Hill, on the south bank of the Appomattox, and the signal communication previously established between the two sides of the river was maintained and called into constant requisition throughout the fight. During this short engagement the commanding general occupied a position at Point of Rocks, and a station was there opened communicating across the river with the officer commanding at Spring Hill and with the commander of the gun-boats in the stream. The attack was repulsed in a few hours and the enemy retired.

In the District of North Carolina the same signal stations were operated during the month of May that were found there when I assumed command, and nothing beyond the usual routine of signal duty transpired until the 26th, when the station built across the railroad track at Batchelder's Creek was destroyed by the accidental explosion of some torpedoes, which it is supposed were being carelessly handled from the cars beneath the signal station. By that accident 2 flagmen were killed and 1 wounded.

During the month of June the following changes were made in the signal stations already established, and the following new ones opened and operated: The station at Bermuda Hundred, which for over a month afforded the only rapid means of communication had between that place and City Point, was discontinued on the 13th because of a telegraph line having been extended between the two points mentioned. Considerable official business between the quartermaster's department and General Hinks' command, and between the commanding general and General Hinks, was, during the existence of the Bermuda station, transacted over its signal line. The stations previously established at Battery No. 1 and the Curtis house were removed on June 11, the former to General Terry's new headquarters, which he had changed from Curtis' house to a camp in the woods, 1 mile to the rear of Battery 6, and the latter to a tower, 50 feet high, at the water battery, which was built for purposes of observation and to facilitate communication with the gun-

transports. Signal communication was opened between division, and brigade headquarters while moving up the James River and kept up until our arrival at Bermuda Hundred. Division moved out to the front May 6.

Established a station of observation at the Curtis house, a. m. of the 7th, keeping watch on Drewry's Bluff, Ball's Bluff, and three of the enemy's signal stations on the north side of the James River. The latter were discontinued the next day. The city of Richmond was also visible, and steamers could be traced on course up and down the James River. On the 9th our division moved out to destroy the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad. During the turnpike signal communication was established between General Terry's headquarters at Chester Station and General Gillmore's headquarters near Port Walthall Junction, as shown by the accompanying map;\* also having two stations of observation on the river direct with General Gillmore's headquarters. On returning to Swift Creek on the 10th signal communication between General Turner, commanding rear guard, and his rear skirmish line was kept up. In the a. m. of the 11th signal communication was established from General Ames' headquarters, near Bermuda Hundred, to General Terry's headquarters at the Curtis house, and from Admiral Lee's flag-ship in the James River.

The injury I received in being thrown from my horse during the night of May 8, aggravated by the subsequent fatigue and exposure, induced a fever, which on the 11th of May placed me under the surgeon's care, remaining in my quarters until May 20. This is the first time this fall I am not free from yet.

On the 12th this force moved toward Fort Darling, my division assigned as before, Lieutenant Cross taking charge. The division worked May 15 and 16, as shown by the accompanying map. The force returned nearly all under fire at different times. The force returned to place in the evening of the 16th, and the stations at the front were reopened. During the assaults on our works May 20 signal communication was opened from Batteries Nos. 1, 3, and 6 with the division via Curtis' house, and with each other, to enable the fire to be directed, which communication has since been uninterrupted. Major Ames' inspection on the 25th and found the stations, equipment, and men in fair condition, except the glasses in possession of most of the officers, which were poor. These have now been exchanged for better ones.

On the 26th Captain Norton having furnished me with a set of rockets, they were sent to our picket-line to be used in case of attack. On the 27th 3 officers and 9 men of this party were sent by Special Orders, No. 21, headquarters Department of Virginia, to North Carolina, transferred to the Eighteenth Army Corps. On account of the sickness of Lieutenants Clemens and Roberts it was necessary to discontinue the station at Battery No. 6, but it was kept up on the 31st.

The stations now being worked by my party are as before, at the Curtis' house, communicating with Admiral Lee's flag-ship in the James River and with Batteries Nos. 1 and 3, also used as stations of observation; at Battery No. 1, to enable the signal to be sent to Battery No. 3 to direct No. 1's fire; at Battery No. 3, communicating with the division, and with the headquarters of the



10.00 A. M. (Continued.)

"I will let you know what I can do when it returns."

HINKS,

*General.*

2 P. M.

11.00 A. M. (Continued.)

"One of our boats has had a hole put through her boiler."

GRAHAM,

*General.*

4 P. M.

12.00 A. M. (Continued.)

"Have you men on the opposite side of the river from us, and can you be sent to block the river? It is impracticable to advance on this road. I will be glad to see the boat moved and make a reconnaissance on that. Please send a boat to the river and prevent the enemy following on it."

HINKS,

*General.*

"I have been unable to direct the fire of the guns on General Graham's fleet, as the smoke was not sufficient. There were no signals visible from the fleet. The shelling was continued two or three miles. We have located the enemy's position very thoroughly and have shelled it at several points. Having accomplished our mission, the fleet returned to City Point in the night."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. B. PARTRIDGE,

*First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.*

Capt. LEONARD B. NORTON,

*Chief of Staff, 19th Corps, Dept. of Va. and N. C.*

## NO. 7.

*Report of First Lieutenant W. Benson, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, of operations June 2-30.*

FLAG SHIP MALVERN,

*James River, July 1, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report operations for the month of June, 1864, on the James River fleet, a fleet of great importance, and the first to learn of the enemy's movements. The fleet was engaged in operations and protecting the right flank of our army, and preventing the escape of gun boats and any attacking force from the river on the right.

During the month, I was during the admiral to open fire on his fleet, and to direct the range, &c. I went aboard the Onondaga, where, at a range given by signal, the station at Batter Point reported the range of the enemy's station, which station reported that the range was 10,000 yards. We did not only obtain range. I then re-

bank of the Appomattox River, via Battery No. 6, thence to Spring Hill. The accompanying map\* shows the stations worked by this party, also those with which we are in communication.

I take pleasure in stating that I have been ably seconded in all my efforts since leaving the Department of the South, each and every officer and man having done his whole duty nobly, nearly every station being worked under fire frequently, gaining much praise from the commanding officer. Having suffered from ill health almost continually since leaving the Department of the South, I applied for and received leave of absence to go North for thirty days, leaving this department June 19.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, yours,

G. S. DANA,

*Captain, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.*

Capt. L. B. NORTON,

*Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of Va. and N. C.*

### No. 6.

*Report of Lieut. Sylvester B. Partridge, Signal Corps, U. S. Army,  
of operations May 9.*

HQRS. THIRD DIVISION, 18TH ARMY CORPS,

*City Point, Va., May 10, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of operations during yesterday, May 9:

I accompanied General Hinks on a reconnaissance toward Petersburg, Va., taking with me 1 flagman. I endeavored from several points to discover the position of General W. F. Smith and to communicate with him, but he was not at any time in sight. General Graham moved up the Appomattox River with his gun-boats. When he came within range of the rebel battery called Fort Clifton it opened on his boats. General Hinks brought his force into position in sight of the battery. The gun-boats replied with apparently some effect, but as the enemy occupied a very elevated position, he had a decided advantage.

The following messages passed between General Hinks and General Graham by signal, there being a signal sergeant with the latter officer:

1.30 P. M.

General HINKS:

Have you heard anything from Smith?

GRAHAM,

*General.*

General GRAHAM:

No.

HINKS,

*General.*

1.45 P. M.

General HINKS:

mac and at night with the station at City Point, and returned to old anchorage at 11.30 a. m. June 16. The admiral changed his flag-ship to gun-boat Malvern 18th June. Changed station on the 19th to iron-clad and directed firing against rebel rams; and again, June 21, I took station on the iron-clad Onondaga, directed and reported shots by signals sent by Lieutenant Bruyn from shore from 10.30 a. m. until 5 p. m., the enemy having retired, when I changed to the Malvern again.

June 26, I was ordered to iron-clad *Canonicus* to remain until the flag-ship returned, and returned at dark; and again on the 28th instant I was ordered to *Canonicus*.

During the month I have sent over 100 official messages, and was constantly on duty either at signaling or practicing with 2 naval officers in order to assist me in case of any emergency. Said officers were first taught by Captain Howard while in the west. At the same time I was suffering with an illness which I had had for thirty days previous, reading and sending messages under a cross-fire from the battery above us and the rams in our rear, and received the thanks of all naval officers with [*sic*] for the prompt and great assistance which was rendered during the month by our system of signals. I would also like to report Private Sweet as a man entitled to a first class, he having proved himself as superior in watching and reporting enemy's movements from the masthead, and attention to duties and great care of signal equipments; and also that as the enemy's movements up the river cannot be seen from the vessels lying in the river, great importance is attached to the station in charge of Lieutenant Bruyn.

And hoping that my efforts meet with your approval, I am, &c., very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENSON,  
*Lieutenant and Signal Officer.*

Capt. L. B. NORTON.

*Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of Va. and N. C.*

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No. 8.

*Report of Lieut. Julius M. Swain, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, of operations May 1-31.*

HEADQUARTERS WILD'S BRIGADE,  
*Wilson's Landing, James River, Va., May 31, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I inclose herewith a transcript of the official messages received by me during the month of May, and with it the following report of my duties for the month:

From the 1st to the 4th instant I was in charge of the station at Fort Reno, on the line of the Portsmouth defenses. On the 4th instant I reported at Fort Monroe with my party, agreeable to your orders, and on that evening to General Hinks, who assigned me to duty with Brigadier-General Wild, commanding First Brigade, Third Division, Eighteenth Army Corps. I immediately reported to General Wild on board the transport *Wilson Small*, in Hampton Roads. I had with me Privates Lathrop, Mott, Jonas, and Bell, two of whom and myself were mounted. On the morning of the

